

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-11 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 7 being the independent claims. Claims 3 and 6 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claim 10 has been added. These amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully request.

Based the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S. C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,809,154 to Polk. Claim 6 has been canceled, thereby rendering its rejection moot. Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features previously recited in claim 3, which was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner, except that a portion of original independent claim 1 has been deleted. Claims 2, 4, and 5 depend from amended independent claim 1 and are not anticipated by the Polk '154 patent for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Applicants therfore respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Polk '154 patent inv view of U.S. Patent No. 6,079,515 to Newman. Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form, which was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner, except that it does not include all of the features recited in original

independent claim 1. Claims 8 and 9 depend from independent claim 7 and are allowable over the Polk '154 and Newman patents for at least the same reasons as claim 7. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 10 and 11 have been added which depend from now independent claim 7.

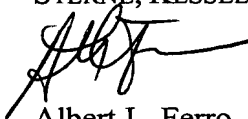
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Albert L. Ferro
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,679

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1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600